

REMARKS

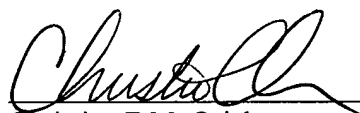
Applicants have amended the specification to correct a typographical error in an amino acid sequence. Specifically, the incorrect amino acid sequence LX₃LXLX₂NX(L/I) has been replaced with the correct sequence, LX₂LXLX₂NX(L/I). The latter sequence is well known in the art as a typical sequence for Small Leucine-Rich Proteoglycans (SLRPs). Applicants declare that in making this amendment, no new matter has been added to the specification.

It is believed that no fees (other than the enclosed payment for additional claims) are required for filing this Amendment. If necessary, Applicants request that this Amendment be considered a request for an extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136, and requests that any associated fees for extensions of time be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Deposit Account Number 02-3223. Applicants also authorize that any other fees associated with this filing that are due but are not covered by the enclosed check be charged to the aforementioned account.

Should the Examiner have any questions, he or she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine", followed by a horizontal line.

Christine E.M. Orich
Registration No. 44,987

Indianapolis, Indiana
(317) 684-5000